(b) what steps Government propose to take to improve the quality of food to be served in the Indian Airlines to be at par with that of private airlines?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHRIPAD YESSO NAIK): (a) to (b) Indian Airlines uplifts hygienic food from the best available caterers, most of which are flight kitchen of fivestar status. A system of quality check has been introduced at major base stations by appointing flight kitchen supervisors for keeping a stringent check on quality and preparation of meals, at the premises of the caterers.

Improvement in quality is a constant process to maximise passenger satisfaction. Special efforts are also being made to improve the presentability and display of food items on the service tray.

Flight from Madurai to important cities

1356. SHRIMATI S.G. INDIRA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to operate flights between Madurai and other important cities;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHRIPAD YESSO NAIK): (a) to (c) At present, following scheduled air services are available to/from Madurai:

INDIAN AIRLINES

Mumbai-Chennai-Madurai and return	daily

JET AIRWAYS

Chennai-Madurai-Chennai	daily

Indian Airlines presently has no plans to link Madurai with any other city by direct services. It is, however, up to the airlines to provide air services to specific places depending upon the traffic demand and commercial viability subject to compliance of route dispersal guidelines issued by Government.